

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A film covered battery comprising:

a laminate battery element having a first side and a second side in a thickness direction thereof, said battery element having a plurality of positive electrodes and a plurality of negative electrodes which are alternately laminated, and each of the positive electrodes and the negative electrodes comprising a tab protruding therefrom;

a flexible casing comprised of two halves for sandwiching said battery element from said first side and said second side of said battery element to seal said battery element, said casing including a recess in one of said halves for receiving said battery element on said first side of said battery element;

positive and negative charge collectors ~~connected~~formed, respectively, ~~to~~by collectively joining the tabs of said positive electrodes ~~being collectively joined~~ in the thickness direction and collectively joining the tabs of said negative electrodes ~~being collectively joined~~ in the thickness direction, said charge collectors being substantially planar and parallel to said sides of said battery element; and

lead terminals connected respectively to said positive charge collector and said negative charge collector, said lead terminals being substantially planar or having a crank shape, and the connected surfaces of said lead terminals connected respectively to said positive and negative charge collectors being horizontal and being positioned between and parallel to said first side and said second side of said battery element.

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): The film covered battery according to claim 1, wherein said battery element has a thickness of 3 mm or more, and each of said charge collectors is positioned 1 mm or more inside of said first surface and said second surface of said battery element.

4. (previously presented): The film covered battery according to claim 1, wherein the recess formed in said casing has a depth which is substantially equal to the height from the surface of a portion of said lead terminal extending from said casing to the first surface of said battery element.

5. (original): The film covered battery according to claim 1, wherein each said lead terminal is bent in a crank shape in a direction opposite to said half of said casing formed with said recess.

6. (previously presented): The film covered battery according to claim 5, wherein a leading end of each said bent lead terminal is positioned beyond the second surface of said battery element.

7. (previously presented): The film covered battery according to claim 6, wherein the distance from the surface of the leading end of each said bent lead terminal opposite to said recess to the second surface of said battery element is 1 mm or more.

8. (previously presented): The film covered battery according to claim 1, wherein:
each said lead terminal is bent in a crank shape in a direction opposite to said half of said casing formed with said recess, and
said casing includes a protrusion formed on the other half thereof in a region opposing said charge collector, said other half being located opposite to said one half formed with said recess across said battery element, said protrusion being substantially equal to the height from the second surface of said battery element to said charge collector.

9. (original): The film covered battery according to claim 1, wherein said positive lead terminal and said negative lead terminal are connected to said battery element on sides of said battery element different from each other.

10. (original): The film covered battery according to claim 1, wherein said battery element is a chemical battery element or a capacitor element.